

THE ANNUAL ROMANCE

By Mary Graham Bonner

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ROSALIND was engaged to be married. She was to be married the day after Christmas. She couldn't very well be married before then as her fiancé was so especially, unusually busy at Christmas time, and it would have been cruel, too, not to have waited.

For Bill, her beloved, took the part of a Santa Claus every Christmas for one of the big city stores. He was an ideal Santa Claus. He wasn't too tall, he was not too short; he was rather inclined to a stockiness of build, and extra clothes made him look an ideal round Santa. He had a ruddy face and snapping blue eyes—and dressed in a Santa Claus costume he was perfect.

How the children did adore him! And how he loved them! They whispered their secrets to him and their eyes danced with rare happiness when he waved a good-bye to them and called them:

"Sweethearts," and "My dears," and "Children dears," and other affectionate terms.

Rosalind had been thrilled when she had heard him first, in his deep beautiful voice uttering such beautiful words! For Rosalind had met him first when he had been a Santa Claus and she had been an extra sales girl taken on for the Christmas rush.

It had been her first meeting with him. But she had been kept at the store after the Christmas rush was over, and Bill had worked for the store for seven years now. Every December he was Santa Claus. The other eleven months he spent in selling kitchen utensils in the basement. They had fallen in love with each other, though, at this time when he had been Santa Claus. And many a time when he had said: "Good-bye dearie," to a child, he had been thinking of the pretty girl who was at that very moment selling dolls and giving her smiles, her beautiful smiles to a mother or to children.

And now a second Christmas was coming around, and once more Bill

was Santa Claus, and as soon as he was through being Santa Claus they would be married.

"I've always had lots of romance in my nature," she said to him one evening. "I've always thought it would be awful to be like some folks—some I know and some I've heard talk. One lady who came to the store with a friend was telling how she and her husband got along perfectly. They each had other friends, and sometimes they met and embarrassed others when they told that they were married. For one time the husband had been having dinner with a friend, and the friend had been looking flirtatiously at his wife who was also in the restaurant. 'The friend had been much embarrassed when he discovered he had been

awkward, but they had the right idea."

And as Rosalind listened to her Santa Claus, as she counted the days before the wedding, she said to herself:

"It will be an annual romance to see Bill as Santa Claus, for it was as Santa Claus that I, too, fell in love with him as well as the children, and every year our happy, merry memories will be revived for us. We believe in romance and romance believes in us, for it, too, is going to play its part."

And someone who knew them both said:

"It wouldn't be a bad idea if every man could be as he was during his courtship days for a whole month of every year!"

GETTING RICH QUICK

Millionaires Are Made Overnight in California.

With most of its "movie scandals" properly draped in crepe through the insistence of Will Hays, chief of the "censors," southern California's metropolis is entering on a new era of romance with trimmings never dreamed of in the days of '49, relates a Los Angeles, Cal., dispatch.

It has a new crop of millionaires as the result of the real estate orgy of speculation, reviving of the motion picture game, which once again is getting out of the doldrums, but—more especially as the result of the oil craze.

The city certainly again is in its stride as the boom town of all times, with its overnight millionaires, its picturesque company attracted by the possibilities of easy money and setting a pace for the bizarre and unusual in all that enters into what is accepted as romance when embalmers between the covers of a book and which outjazzes all previous records of fact and fancy.

When a new oil well roared in Saturday with an 8,600 barrel per day production of high gravity oil, that sells at \$2.90 a barrel at the well, the two brothers who owned it could not be located. A wise courier hours afterward found them lodged in a room at a downtown hotel. They were very tired, but a half hour's work brought them round to a point where they could listen. Then the courier told the news. The elder brother asked for a

pencil. Rough figures—very wobbly figures they were—made it upwards of twenty thousand dollars a day.

"Hot oil," exclaimed the beneficiary, "at \$20 a bottle for the real old stuff, that's a thousand bottles a day." He rose and clasped hands with his brother across the table.

"Let's start," he said. Reports of fleeting glimpses of the brothers all that are available today.

But luck is not for all. Take the case of Togo, the super-poodle. The story came out when Mrs. Martha

Cox applied for a divorce and for custody of Togo. She said she had been working her head off to maintain a comfortable home, a nice auto and other necessary comforts while Papa Cox was known as the best dancer in Hollywood. Mrs. Cox said she didn't care for herself, it was Togo she worried about, and when the judge took her appeal under advisement she had the open sympathy of the spectators.

Not so hard was the romance of Mrs. Hazel R. Devane, of Beach-

wood drive. She is the mother of George Edward, six years old. She divorced her husband some time ago. Recently she met a former admirer on the streets. He fell in love with little George. Today she has word that her son has been made the beneficiary in the will of the former admirer, who died suddenly, and the mother is to administer his estate so long as she does not remarry her divorced husband.

The estate only totals some three million dollars. To show that Los

Angles knows how to treat her new millionaires, within the hour after the word was received, Mrs. Devane had 37 callers. Twelve were automobile salesmen, twenty offered oil stocks, five were real estate men, but up to now she has not bought anything. But—here is the glad part, the telephone man called up. "Mrs. Devane," he said, "we'll have your phone installed within three days."

The application had been in for nine months.



Took the Part of Santa Claus.

flirting with the husband's wife. And she was telling this as a good joke.

"I wouldn't want that kind where one goes one way and the other the other way. And I wouldn't want to be known as a wife because I was quarreling with my husband."

"You know how you hear folks say 'Well, you could tell they were married, all right.' I don't want that kind."

"And you won't have it, little girl," Bill said. "I'm for your kind of romance every time. I'm for the kind of a married life where folks won't think we're married—we'll be so happy! I had a friend once like that. Why, a cop called him down because he was making love to his wife and wouldn't believe they were married 'cause she called him 'darling.' They found it



Christmas Suggestions For Discriminating Gift Buyers

MOST PRACTICAL, THRIFTY PEOPLE IN THESE LATER YEARS BUY GIFTS FOR THEIR FRIENDS AT CHRISTMAS THAT HAVE REAL VALUE BECAUSE OF THEIR UTILITY—THE FRIVOLOUS BUYING OF OTHER YEARS HAS PASSED. THAT IS WHY FOR YEARS PAST OUR HOLIDAY SALES OF GIFT GOODS HAVE BEEN STEADILY GROWING. THIS YEAR IS BUT ANOTHER ADDED TO OUR RECORD OF READINESS TO SERVE THE BUYER OF REAL WORTH-WHILE GIFTS—NOT NECESSARILY EXPENSIVE BUT OF A GOODNESS THAT INSURES QUALITY, PLUS STYLE AND FITNESS FOR GIVER AND RECIPIENT. COME IN AND LET US SHOW YOU SOMETHING IN THE FOLLOWING GOOD LINES

Luggage—A Suit Case, Hand Bag, Standard Size Trunk or a Steamer Trunk.

Men's Hats—New Styles in Knox's and Setson's correct headwear. Also Sure-Fit Caps for men and boys. Very pleasing styles.

Bath Robes—For men, just arrived.

Bed Room Slippers—Always a splendid gift. A fine assortment for men, women and children.

Blankets and Bed Spreads, Linen and Fancy Bath Towels—Your wife or mother would be tickled with some of these. Priced just right.

Hosiery in Wool, Cotton, Silk, and Lisle—For men, ladies and children—A gift that is always acceptable and one that is easy to select—a splendid line to be found here.

Men's Ties—No man ever has too many. Come to our Tie counter and you'll find an assortment that is pleasing, in good taste and very reasonably priced. Easily the best display to be found hereabouts.

Gloves—Men's Dress Kid and Cape Gloves and Automobile Gloves for ladies and gentlemen.

Handkerchiefs—No lady or gentleman ever has too many Handkerchiefs. We are showing a beautiful line of these especially suitable for gifts. Both cotton and linen.

Clothing—Don't forget our lines of Clothing for the men and boys. Splendidly good Clothes, right in style, Blue Ribbon in quality and to be sure they are priced very low.

Shoes—No gift is ever more practical and acceptable than Shoes. Any lady—your mother, sister or daughter, or your son, would be delighted to be given a pair of our High or Low Dress Shoes. There's Blue Ribbon Quality, Style and Comfort in every pair. A size and last to fit any foot. May we show you Shoes?

Other Things—We might suggest Underwear, a Rain Coat, Belts, Umbrellas, Hose Supporters, or perhaps a nice Dress Pattern, etc.

AND TO BE SURE, WE EXTEND THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON AND BEST WISHES TO YOU AND YOURS FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Shoes J. M. STROUP Shoes

The City Pharmacy

CLOVER, - - - S. C.



Gifts and more Gifts

BIG STOCKS READY FOR SELECTION

OUR STOCKS ARE READY to show you the way to happy Gift Selection. It is an especially fine line of Christmas goods we are showing this year. Truly we have exceeded our own expectations in this respect. Our stocks are complete—Selections are most pleasing—Qualities are fine and Appreciation is bound to be sincere. Prices are particularly low to permit and encourage liberal giving.

A TIP OR TWO TO GIFT BUYERS:

KODAKS, \$3.50 to \$15.00	WATCHES, \$10.00 to \$40.00
FOUNTAIN PENS, \$2.50 to \$10.	PENCILS, 50 Cts. to \$5.00
TOILET SETS, \$1.50 to \$10.00	WATCH CHAINS, \$1.00 to \$7.00
PERFUME SETS, \$1.50 to \$10.00	PIPES, 50 Cts. \$3.50
CANDY, \$1.00 to \$6.00 Box Pkg.	ALARM CLOCKS, \$2.00 to \$3.75

COME AND SEE THEM RIGHT AWAY

It will be a pleasure for us to help you in selection and we will be pleased to reserve gifts if you wish to buy them early and hold them for Christmas delivery. We will be ready to deliver them anywhere and any time you say, and we will pack for express or for parcel post. Come and see these goods and make selections now.

THE City Pharmacy

THE REXALL STORE

CLOVER, S. C.

JUST A WORD

TO OUR NUMEROUS FARMER FRIENDS AT THIS HAPPY SEASON OF THE GOOD YEAR 1922
WE'D HAVE YOU ALL KNOW—

—THAT WE APPRECIATE DEEPLY THE CONSTANT AND LIBERAL PATRONAGE
YOU HAVE GIVEN US—

WE'VE TRIED TO GIVE YOU SERVICE

UNEXCELLED FOR THAT PATRONAGE AND WE BELIEVE THAT YOU FEEL
SATISFIED WE HAVE DONE JUST THAT.

WE WISH FOR EACH OF YOU

AND FOR ALL OF THE FOLKS OF CLOVER AND YORK COUNTY WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO OUR SUCCESS DURING THE YEAR, A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR.

PERHAPS IT IS NOT NECESSARY

TO REMIND YOU THAT THE OPENING OF 1923 WILL FIND US AT THE SAME OLD
STAND IN BETTER POSITION THAN EVER TO TAKE CARE OF YOU IN THE WAY
OF MEAL AND HULLS, COAL AND ICE AND GINNING

WE ARE ALSO GOING TO SAY

That while wishing for all of You a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, we want You to know that we are Merry and Happy Because of the many new friends we have made among the Farmers of this section.

CLOVER COTTON OIL AND GINNING COMPANY

J. F. PURSLEY, President and General Manager

CLOVER, S. C.